

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A surface structure of a metallic body containing a metal substrate, the surface structure comprising:

5 a nickel (Ni) layer formed on a surface of the substrate;

a barrier layer of one or more elements selected from Group 8A of the periodic table formed on a surface of the nickel (Ni) layer; and

10 a gold (Au) layer formed on a surface of the barrier layer.

2. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 1,

15 wherein the barrier layer is made of rhodium (Rh).

3. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 1,

wherein the substrate is made of stainless steel.

20

4. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 1,

wherein the substrate is a cylindrical lens barrel holding an optical element, the nickel layer, the barrier

25 layer and the gold layer are formed on an outer peripheral surface of the lens barrel.

5. The surface structure of a metallic body

according to Claim 2,

wherein the substrate is a cylindrical lens barrel
holding an optical element, the nickel layer, the barrier
layer and the gold layer are formed on an outer
5 peripheral surface of the lens barrel.

6. The surface structure of a metallic body
according to Claim 3,

wherein the substrate is a cylindrical lens barrel
10 holding an optical element, the nickel layer, the barrier
layer and the gold layer are formed on an outer
peripheral surface of the lens barrel.